

REMARKS

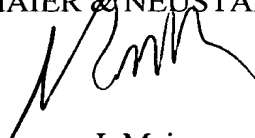
Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 4-13 are presently pending in this application, Claims 1-3 and 14-22 having been canceled by way of this Preliminary Amendment.

Examination on the merits of Claims 4-13 and an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Serial No: New Application

Amendment Filed on:

May 4, 2001

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before the first line, please insert the following sentence:

--This application is a Division of application Serial No. 09/386,291, filed on August

31, 1999.--

09443280-050401